

Central Coventry Fire District

Board Meeting

July 25, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.

1670 Flat River Rd.

Minutes

1. Call to Order – 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

President: Fred P. Gralinski

Vice President: Marie Baker - Excused

Directors: – Cynthia A. Fagan-Perry, Robert G. Hadley, Maureen K. Jendzejec,

Daniel K. Lantz, Jr., Helen G. Quinn

Treasurer:

Tax Collector:

Clerk: Christine Moniz

Chief: Andrew J. Baynes - Excused

President of the Union Dave Gorman

Also in attendance - members of the public, and Fire Department

3. Moved to closed session – Pursuant to RIGL 42-45-5 (A) 2, sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, specifically,

to discuss status of pending receivership, KB12-1150, and related litigation, update and discussion with legal counsel.

Motion was made to move into executive session by Director Quinn and Seconded by Director Fagan-Perry. Board moved into closed session at 6:05 pm

All Voted Aye.

Motion made to move back into Open Session at 7:07 p.m. Motion was made by Director Fagan-Perry and Seconded by Director Quinn. All Voted Aye.

Motion was made to seal the minutes of Executive Session by Director Fagan-Perry and Seconded by Director Quinn. All Voted Aye

Approve the minutes from July 5, 2013, July12, 2013 and July 15, 2013.

Motion made to approve the minutes of July 5th, July 15th and the July 12 minutes approval was tabled due to Director Fagan-Perry and Director Quinn stating the minutes were not complete. Director Fagan-Perry wanted the minutes verbatim. The motion was seconded by Director Quinn.

All Voted Aye.

The Board moved into Budget Workshop – Director Hadley explained that the Board has a budget sent to them by the Special Master. Tonight they are going to deal with payroll, operational and administrative expenses. First on the list are the hydrants at 224,000 per year 341 in total at a rate of \$560 per hydrant. Director Hadley wants to drop this line item by 24,000. The Board will try to work with Kent County Water. Next big item are the street lights the Board will try to work to shut some of the lights off to get that bill lowered. The new Audit is budgeted 24,000. That would be for 2013 but since we are under receivership so we need the audit. But the new bill mentioned by President Gralinski

\$25,000 for legal expenses but reduced to \$18,000.00. A member of the public stated that as far as the audit it would be a good idea in order to have a good budget you need to start with good numbers because you will have garbage later on. The Board would also like to reduce the amount being paid to the Board Members to 225.00 per person per month. The rest of the year going unpaid.

Special Master 125,000.00 per year we can't afford them anymore they want to cut that area by \$25,000.00. Mr. Ray Angel wanted to know why the Board needs an attorney when we did not have one previous.

Director Hadley stated the Board believes that if the last board had one then they would not have had the trouble they had in the past. There was more discussion on the possible rate but the Board needs to do some more research and look into what the new rate will be.

Director Hadley asked if anyone had any pull with National Grid or

Kent County Water.

Old Business – none

New Business – Comment made under new business the President is keeping an eye on incoming tax collections.

Discussion under new business in regards to the tax bills being confusing and all of the overpayments have been mailed back to the taxpayers. A motion was made by Director Hadley to have the Tax Collector to continue returning the overpayments to the tax payers. If anyone has any questions on the bill feel free to call the tax office for explanation. The motion was made seconded by Director Fagan-Perry and also Director Quinn.

All Voted Aye.

Motion made to end discussion under new business – motion made by Director Fagan-Perry and Seconded by Director Quinn

All Voted Aye.

Board opened the meeting to public comment.

A member of the public talked about the fire hazard danger in the industrial park and the main concern was the two asphalt plants. After hearing the expert state the new business that wants to go onto the industrial park he stated it is a huge fire hazard. We also need to

keep in mind that there is a high school, elementary school and a mobile home park. Then the member of the public also checked to see if there was a fire hydrant at this park and there are none. She wanted to know if we have an evacuation plan, or a plan if there to fight a fire in that area. She wants the Board and the Fire Department to keep in mind the dangerous conditions. The President did state that the Fire Department is aware and are working on the situation.

The Union President did make a statement that the Fire Department and the Fire Marshall are aware of the situation and are requesting a hydrant in that area.

A member of the public wanted to know why are we paying \$50,000 for lap tops and who has them. The Union President did explain what the lap tops are and they are tough books and we use them on the trucks and the rescues.

More discussion on the Fire Department and the Marshal get more involved in the planning process of new businesses and attend the planning meetings. Also get the Fire Department involved more before planning will rubber stamp the plans before the business gets a green light.

After a few more questions public comment was ended.

Next Meeting – The next Board meeting will be Wednesday, July 31,

2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Annex.

**Motion made to adjourn the meeting by Director Fagan-Perry and
Seconded by Director Quinn**

All Voted Aye.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.